

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component into a printer comprising:
 - a detachable printer component having a toe-end and a back end;
 - a mount secured to the printer for detachably receiving the printer component by operably engaging said toe-end and said back end of said detachable printer component; and,
 - 10 a cover operably secured to said mount extending partially over said toe-end of said detachable printer component when said detachable printer component is secured to said mount defining a neutral position of the cover with respect to the mount such that in order to allow said toe-end to operably engage said mount, said toe-end must be positioned under said cover before said back end is secured to said mount.
- 15 2. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink reservoir.
- 20 3. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink/printhead cartridge.
- 25 4. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said printer component is a printhead.
5. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said printer is an inkjet printer.
- 30 6. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said detachable printer component during installation.

7. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said cover is pivotally secured to said mount at a pivot point and able to deflect slightly out of the cover's engaged position to facilitate installation of said detachable printer component.

8. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 7, wherein said cover is biased to said cover's neutral position.

9. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 8, wherein said cover is biased to said cover's neutral position with a beam spring extending between said cover and said mount.

10 15 10. The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 1, wherein said cover is a visually distinguishable color from the color of said mount.

11. An inkjet printer comprising;
20 a chassis;
a motor;
a carriage operably secured to the chassis and driven by the motor for reciprocal movement relative to the chassis;

25 a detachable ink reservoir having a toe-end and a back end;
a printhead operably secured to the carriage, in fluid communication with said ink reservoir, and in electrical communication with a controller;

a mount secured to said carriage for detachably receiving said ink reservoir in an ink reservoir chamber by operably engaging said toe-end and said back end of said detachable printer component; and,

30 a cover operably secured to said mount extending partially over said ink reservoir chamber such that in order to allow said toe-end to operably engage said mount, said toe-

end must be positioned under said cover and within said ink reservoir chamber before said back end is secured to said mount.

12. The inkjet printer of claim 11, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said ink reservoir during installation.

13. The inkjet printer of claim 11, wherein said cover has an engaged position and is pivotally secured to said mount at a pivot point and able to deflect slightly out of the cover's engaged position to facilitate installation of said detachable printer component.

14. The inkjet printer of claim 11, wherein said cover is biased to said cover's neutral position.

15. The inkjet printer of claim 11, wherein said cover is a visually distinguishable color from the color of said mount.

16. A method for ensuring proper toe-heel insertion of a detachable printer component having a toe-end and a back end into a mount on a printer, the mount operably engaging the toe-end and the back end of the detachable printer component, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a partial cover over the mount that extends partially over the toe-end of the detachable printer component when the detachable printer component is secured to the mount;

inserting the toe-end of the detachable printer component into the mount and below the cover to operably engage the toe-end to the mount; and,

lowering the back end of the detachable printer component to the mount to operably engage the back end to the mount.

17. The method for ensuring proper toe-heel insertion of a detachable printer component of claim 16, further including the step of blocking the toe-end of the detachable printer component from operably engaging the mount with the cover if the back end is secured to the mount before the toe-end is secured to the mount.

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18. The method for ensuring proper toe-heel insertion of a detachable printer component of claim 16, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink reservoir.

10 19. The method for ensuring proper toe-heel insertion of a detachable printer component of claim 16, further including the step of biasing the cover to a neutral position.

15 20. The method for ensuring proper toe-heel insertion of a detachable printer component of claim 16, wherein the printer is an inkjet printer having a carriage, the detachable printer component is an ink reservoir, and the mount is operably secured to the carriage.

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